

GEONEMUS SCHOENHERR, 1833 AND BRACHYOMUS  
LACORDAIRE, 1863 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA): PROPOSAL TO  
MAINTAIN CURRENT USAGE BY DESIGNATION OF A TYPE  
SPECIES FOR *GEONEMUS*. Z.N.(S.)2565

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In this application, it is proposed that the accustomed usage of the generic names *Geonemus* Schoenherr, 1833 and *Brachyomus* Lacordaire, 1863 in the family CURCULIONIDAE be maintained by the designation of an appropriate type species for *Geonemus*.

2. The name *Geophilus* was established by Schoenherr (1823, column 1140) with two species listed in column 1141: *Geophilus suturalis*, cited there as type, but a *nomen nudum*, and *Curculio octotuberculatus* Fabricius (1787, p. 112) thus the type species by monotypy. Schoenherr (1826, p. 161) provided a description of the genus and *octotuberculatus*, from Cayenne, was cited as type species on p. 14, again the only available name of the four listed on p. 162 (including *virgatus*, cited there as type).

3. *Geophilus* Schoenherr is a junior homonym of *Geophilus* Leach, 1814, a myriapod genus (see Neave, 1939, p. 457). Schoenherr (1833, p. 13) replaced it with *Geonemus* and listed *Curculio amictus* Wiedemann (1823, p. 123) as type, although by Article 67(h) of the Code the type continues to be *C. octotuberculatus*. If the designation of *amictus* were to be upheld, *Geonemus* would be a senior synonym of the well known genus *Rhinoscaptha* Montrouzier (1855, p. 47). Schoenherr (1834, p. 296) included in the genus *Curculio flabellipes* Olivier (1807, p. 374) from S. France and Algeria. Schoenherr's final concept of *Geonemus* (1834, pp. 289–297) is clearly a mixed assemblage, including species from Europe, the East Indies, the West Indies, and Central and South America. Lacordaire (1863, p. 131) emended the generic name to *Geonomus*, but this name was not adopted by most subsequent workers.

4. The name *Brachyomus* was established by Lacordaire (1863, p. 130) to include *octotuberculatus* and other New World species previously placed in *Geonemus*, and on pp. 131 and 132 he restricted *Geonemus* to three Old World species, including *flabellipes*. This concept of the two genera has been followed by all subsequent authors, e.g. Gemminger & Harold (1871, pp. 2239–2240 & 2240); Bedel (1883, p. 31); Faust (1892, pp. 14–16); Dalla Torre, Emden & Emden (1936, pp. 46–47); Lona (1938, p. 508); Hoffmann (1950, pp. 360–361) and Wibmer & O'Brien (1986, pp. 73–74). Wibmer & O'Brien (1986, p. 73) reported the error, but maintained the current usage to maintain stability and designated *octotuberculatus* as type species of *Brachyomus*.

5. According to the rules of nomenclature *Geonemus* Schoenherr, 1833 and *Brachyomus* Lacordaire, 1863 are objective synonyms, both having *Curculio octotuberculatus* Fabricius as the type species. Clearly this confuses the application of both names, and the consequences can be avoided by setting aside the fixation of *Curculio octotuberculatus* as type of *Geonemus* and by designating for this genus an Old World type species in accordance with current usage.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all fixations hitherto made of type species for the nominal genus *Geonemus* Schoenherr, 1833, and then to designate *curculio flabellipes* Olivier, 1807, as type species, thus removing *Brachyomus* Lacordaire, 1863 from objective synonymy with *Geonemus*;
- (2) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Geonemus* Schoenherr, 1833 (gender: masculine), type species by designation in (1) above, *Curculio flabellipes* Olivier, 1807;
  - (b) *Brachyomus* Lacordaire, 1863 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Wibmer & O'Brien, 1986, *Curculio octotuberculatus* Fabricius, 1787;
- (3) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *flabellipes* Olivier, 1807, as published in the binomen *Curculio flabellipes* (specific name of the type species of *Geonemus* Schoenherr, 1833);
  - (b) *octotuberculatus* Fabricius, 1787, as published in the binomen *Curculio octotuberculatus* (specific name of the type species of *Brachyomus* Lacordaire, 1863).

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